

Filed Via Certified Mail  
Rec. No.: 7000 0600 0024 0744 4961  
On: June 7, 2001

By Cheryl Schoenfeld  
Cheryl Schoenfeld

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Attorney Docket No. FUJA 18.671

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Ikuya MORIKAWA et al.

Serial No.: 09/863,583

Filed: May 16, 2001

Title: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTED  
GROUP MANAGEMENT**

Examiner:

Art Unit:

June 7, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

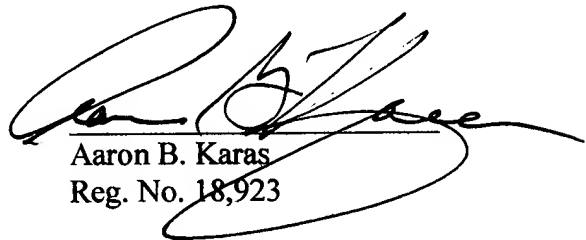
As these documents are written in a language other than English, English language Abstracts are annexed thereto explaining their relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a) and 1.106 (b), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



Aaron B. Karas  
Reg. No. 18,923

HELFGOTT & KARAS, P.C.  
EMPIRE STATE BUILDING  
60TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10118  
(212) 643-5000  
DOCKET NO. FUJA 18.671



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U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeApplication No. : 09/863,583  
Filing Date : May 16, 2001  
First Named Inventor : I. Morikawa et al.  
Group Art Unit :  
Examiner Name :  
Attorney Docket No. : FUJA 18.671**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4-71058	JP	NEC CORP.	03/05/1992	
		9-34822	JP	FUJI XEROX CO.	02/07/1997	

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached <sup>T</sup>
		The Kerberos Network Authentication Service (Version 5), September 1993, John Kohl et al., Internet Request for Comments RFC-1510.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1<sup>6</sup> if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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